

[Emil P. Ronnfeldt]

S241-S DUP

FORM A Circumstances of Interview

NAME OF WORKER George Hartman ADDRESS 2438 W. Lincoln, Nebr.

DATE November 2, 1938 SUBJECT Folklore

1. Name and address of informant. Emil P. Ronnfeldt, 1115 No. 25th.
2. Date and time of interview. Wed. 9 to 11 a.m.
3. Place of interview. 1125 North 25th.
4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant.

None.

5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you. None.

6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc. Nice home but old. Has room where garden is grown.

FORM B Personal History of Informant

NAME OF WORKER George Hartman ADDRESS 2438 W. Lincoln, Nebr.

DATE November 2, 1938 SUBJECT Folklore

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Emil P. Ronnfeldt.

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1. Ancestry. German
2. Place and date of birth. 1894. Philips, Nebr.
3. Family. Wife, no children.
4. Place lived in, with dates. Grand Island 1902. [DeWitt?] 1910-[1918?]. Colorado 1918-1929.
5. Education, with dates. 8th Grade.
6. Occupations and accomplishments, with dates. Welder, repairing autos.
7. Special skills and interests. Repairing old furniture, cars.
8. Community and religious activities. Lutheran, but not active.
9. Description of informant. Small, laughs a lot; toothless squat.
10. Other points gained in interview. Only points gained is that informant seems to be happy even though he is poor.

FORM C Text of Interview (Unedited)

NAME OF WORKER George Hartman ADDRESS 2438 W. Lincoln, Nebr.

DATE November 2, 1938 SUBJECT Folklore

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Emil P. Ronnefeldt, 1125 No. 25th St.

The geese at one time were so thick at one time that farmers hired men to shot them with shot guns to save their wheat.

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One time my father sees a flock of geese and shoots at the flock and the whole flock raised and came down then. After investigation he found that their heads were froze over with ice and they couldn't see. My father killed then at least fifty of them with a club and hauled them home in a wagon. This was in 1898 and happened near the Platto river at Philips.

One time at DeWitt there was reports that a huge panther was on the loose. Everyone got interested and went out hunting the panther. For two weeks the whole country-side were out looking for this panther. It was discovered later that somebody was going out in the timber some nights and crying like a baby as loud as they could.

We had pickled goose for a year and used the feathers for a feather a bed.

My father once lived in Swan City which has now dwindled away. It was the first town to be built in Saline County and was the county seat. When the county seat was moved to Wilber the town, most of it, was moved also to Wilber.